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DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Inspection Report

Minerals Regulatory Program

August 13, 2008

Reviewed: LR

Mine Name: Hebe
Operator Name: Georgia Pacific

Permit number: M0150072
Inspection Date: July 1, 2008
Time: 2:00-3:15 PM

Inspector(s): Paul Baker and Brett Gregory

Other Participants: Chris Conrad (Price BLM); Bill Barger, Paul Collins, and Dave Chidester (Georgia Pacific)

Mine Status: Inactive

Weather: Mostly cloudy, 80s

Elements of Inspection	Evaluated	Comment	Enforcement
1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds, Permit Fees	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Public Safety (shafts, adits, trash, signs, highwalls)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Protection of Drainages / Erosion Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Deleterious Material	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Concurrent Reclamation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Soils	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Revegetation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Purpose of Inspection:

We wanted to discuss reclamation with the operator and review how the site should be reclaimed before reclamation began.

Inspection Summary:

1. Permits, Revisions, Transfer, Bonds, Permit Fees

The Division holds a reclamation surety in the amount of \$76,703.00. It is a corporate surety, and it is due to be escalated in September 2008.

5. Roads (maintenance, surfacing, dust control, safety)

According to the operator, the access road is not a county road, so it will need to be reclaimed. Once this road is reclaimed, access to the mine will necessitate walking about two miles.

7. Backfilling/Grading (trenches, pits, roads, highwalls, shafts, drill holes)

We discussed reclamation of this site. Regrading should not be unusually difficult. Piles of gypsum need to be pushed into the pits, and the entire area should be covered with soil or other material that could serve as a growth medium. Seeding should be done as soon as possible after grading is complete, or if this is not possible, the area should be seeded then dragged with a small harrow or chain link fence pulled behind a four-wheeler.

Conclusions and Recommendations:

The Division should delay escalating the reclamation surety until seeing the grading work the operator intends to do. If grading is not done this fall, the Division will need to increase the surety amount.

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The regraded area should be left as rough as possible. Seeding should be done sometime in the period from late September through early December immediately after regrading is done. If it is not possible to seed immediately after regrading, the area needs to be seeded then lightly harrowed to break the soil crust and work the seed shallowly into the soil.

Before the road is reclaimed, the operator, the Division and the BLM need to be sure the mine site is properly graded so the operator does not have to tram equipment back in.

It can be difficult to reclaim roads without making erosion channels. I recommend roughening the road with a trackhoe, but if the operator uses rips the road with a dozer, care should be taken to make the rips uneven and not continuous.

The seed mix specified in the environmental assessment is:

Species	Ounces PLS/Acre
Indian Ricegrass	0.02
Galleta	0.01
Torrey Ephedra	1.0
Shadscale	0.5
Castle Valley Clover (<i>Atriplex corrugata</i>)	6.6
Rubber Rabbitbrush	0.05
Total	8.18

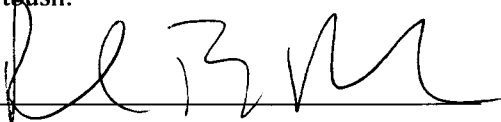
I have asked the BLM to clarify these amounts. Note that the units are in ounces per acre rather than pounds. At these rates the total amount of seed to be applied would be 1.7 seeds per square foot, and the normal recommendation is 50-100 seeds per square foot.

The seed mix I recommended to the BLM is:

Species	Pounds PLS/Acre
Indian Ricegrass	2
Galleta	1
Torrey Ephedra	1
Shadscale	3
Castle Valley Clover (<i>Atriplex corrugata</i>)	3
Rubber Rabbitbrush	1

Castle Valley clover is the common name for *Atriplex gardneri cuneata*, and *Atriplex corrugata* is one of the names for mat saltbush, also known as *Atriplex gardneri corrugata*. These two plants grow in different environments. Castle Valley clover has been very successful in reclaimed areas at the nearby Diamond K Gypsum mine, and I suggest that this species be used rather than mat saltbush.

Inspector's Signature



PBB:pb

cc: Bill Barger, Georgia Pacific
Chris Conrad, Price BLM

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Photo 1. This is an overview of the mine. There are no large pits to be backfilled, so grading should be straightforward.